

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. An isolated polynucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of ORF4, ORF17, ORF18, ORF21, ORF72 and ORF74a, as found in plasmid pMT1 found in *Yersinia pestis* KIM5.

2. A recombinant DNA construction comprising an open reading frame placed under the control of a non-native promoter, the open reading frame selected from the group consisting of ORF4, ORF17, ORF18, ORF21, ORF72 and ORF74a, as found in *Yersinia pestis* KIM5.

3. A host transformed with the recombinant construction of claim 2.

4. A nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence of at least 15 base pairs in length corresponding to at least a portion of SEQ ID NO:2 or its complement.

5. An isolated polynucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of ORF42, ORF43, ORF44, ORF5, ORF 59, ORF60, ORF61, ORF73, ORF74, ORF84 and ORF85 as found in plasmid pCD1 found in *Yersinia pestis*.

6. A recombinant DNA construction comprising an open reading frame placed under the control of a non-native promoter, the open reading frame selected from the group consisting of ORF42, ORF43, ORF44, ORF5, ORF 59, ORF60, ORF61, ORF73, ORF74, ORF84 and ORF85, as found in *Yersinia pestis*.

7. A host transformed with the recombinant DNA construction of claim 6.

8. A nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence of at least

15 base pairs in length corresponding to at least a portion of SEQ ID NO:1 or its complement.

5        8. An isolated polynucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of Y004, Y005 and Y007 as found in plasmid pPCP1 found in *Yersinia pestis*.

10. A recombinant DNA construction comprising an open reading frame placed under the control of a non-native promoter, the open reading frame selected from the group consisting of Y004, Y005, Y007, as found in *Yersinia pestis* plasmid pPCP1.

10        11. A host transformed with the DNA construction of claim 10.

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